



الهيئة الوطنية لتنظيم المهن والخدمات الصحية  
NATIONAL HEALTH REGULATORY AUTHORITY

# Scope of Dental Practice

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# Scope of Dental Practice

## Introduction

Dentistry is defined as the evaluation, diagnosis, prevention and/or treatment (nonsurgical, surgical or related procedures) of diseases, disorders and/or conditions of the oral cavity, maxillofacial area and/or the adjacent and associated structures and their impact on the human body; provided by a dentist, within the scope of his/her education, training and experience, in accordance with the ethics of the profession and the law of practicing Medicine and Dentistry in Kingdom of Bahrain ( No.7 - 1989) and in accordance with the regulations and standards set by the National Health Regulatory Authority (NHRA).

Scope of dental practice describes the procedures, actions, and processes that a dental practitioner is permitted to undertake in keeping with the terms of their professional license.

Dental practitioners must use sound professional judgment to assess their own scope of practice and they must only work within their area of education, training and competence and whenever encountered a case beyond their education, training and competence they should refer it to an appropriate qualified dental practitioner who will be able to provide a quality and safe treatment for the patient. A team approach between dental practitioners is encouraged, so that patients are assured of receiving the most appropriate treatment from the dental practitioner who is most appropriate to provide it.

This document sets the procedures the licensed dental practitioner is allowed to practice according to his/her license category. The dental specialist is allowed automatically to the general dentist scope of practice in addition to his/her specialty scope of practice.

## **1. General Dentistry**

The practice of general dentistry is the maintenance of oral health through the assessment, diagnosis, management, treatment and prevention of any disease, disorder or condition of the orofacial complex and associated structures within the scope of the practitioner's approved education, training and experience. This involves:

### **1.1. Diagnostic Procedures**

- Charting and documentation
- Clinical Oral examination
- Dental radiograph taking /diagnostic image interpretation (intraoral, panoramic and cephalometric)
- Pulp vitality testing
- Diagnostic cast fabrication
- Requesting and interpretation of relevant medical laboratory examination.
- Taking Photographs.

### **1.2. Preventive Procedures**

- Oral hygiene therapy ( Oral hygiene instructions and dietary counseling)
- General dental prophylaxis
- Topical fluoride application
- Fissure sealant application
- Fabrication of Custom Fluoride Trays
- Mouth guard fabrication/ insertion

### **1.3. Restorative Procedures**

- Conventional Restorative procedures (amalgam/composite/glass ionomer)
- Indirect Pulp Capping
- Direct Pulp Capping
- Post and core fabrication
- Vital bleaching.

### **1.4. Endodontic Procedures**

- Pulpotomy
- Pulp extirpation

- Conventional root canal therapy
- Non-Surgical retreatment
- Non-vital bleaching

#### **1.5. Periodontal Procedures**

- Scaling and root planning
- Gingivoplasty/gingivectomy localized single tooth only
- Application of local medication delivery system
- Single crown lengthening (not involving bone removal)
- Incision and drainage of periodontal abscesses
- Provisional splinting of teeth

#### **1.6. Prosthodontics Procedures**

- Inlay and onlay preparation/fabrication
- Veneer preparation/fabrication
- Partial coverage crown preparation/fabrication
- Full crown preparation/fabrication
- Conventional bridge preparation/fabrication
- Adhesive Maryland bridge preparation/fabrication
- Removable Partial Denture fabrication
- Removable Complete Denture fabrication
- Denture relining
- Repair of removable prosthodontic restorations
- Repair of fixed prosthodontic restorations

#### **1.7. Oral Surgery Procedures**

- Normal and simple surgical extraction of teeth
- Incision and drainage of intraoral abscesses
- Suturing of intraoral wounds
- Excision of hyperplastic tissues

#### **1.8. Pediatrics Procedures**

- Conventional restorative procedures (primary teeth)
- Pulpotomy (primary teeth)
- Passive space maintainer fabrication/insertion
- Stainless Steel crown fabrication/insertion.

**1.9. Orthodontics:**

- Provisional diagnosis of malocclusion and teeth eruption
- Provisional diagnosis of dental developmental abnormalities.

**1.10. Oral Medicine:**

- Identifying dental abnormalities.
- Identifying oral lesions.
- Treatment of simple oral lesions.

**1.11. Other Procedures**

- Prescription of medication.
- Administration of Local anesthesia.
- Desensitization procedure administration.
- Occlusal Adjustment.

## **2. Dental Specialties**

### **2.1 Orthodontics**

Orthodontics is the branch of dentistry that is concerned with the supervision, guidance and correction of the growing and mature dentofacial structures and includes the diagnosis, prevention, interception and treatment of all forms of malocclusion of the teeth and associated alterations in their surrounding structures. This involves:

- Minor Tooth Movement with Removable Appliance
- Minor Tooth Movement with Fixed Appliance
- Minor Treatment to Control Harmful Habits
- Interceptive Orthodontic Treatment
- Comprehensive Orthodontic Treatment - Transitional Dentition
- Comprehensive Orthodontic Treatment - Permanent Dentition
- Comprehensive Orthodontic Treatment - Extended Skeletal Case
- Orthodontic Treatment for Cleft and Syndrome Patients.

### **2.2 Pedodontics**

Pedodontics is the branch of dentistry that is concerned with oral health care for children from birth through up to 18 years old. It includes management of orofacial problems related to medical, behavioral, physical or developmental disabilities. This involves:

- Preventive dental care (including oral hygiene, injury prevention, dietary, and habit counseling).
- Behavior management techniques for apprehensive children (including voice control, non-verbal communication, tell-show-do, positive reinforcement, distraction, parental presence/absence, hand over mouth and Physical restraint).
- Aversive behavioral management (including digital and non-nutritive sucking behavior, tongue and swallowing habits).
- Management of bruxism.
- Interceptive orthodontic treatment (correction of anterior and posterior cross bite, space regainers, maxillary expansion with removable appliances).

- Serial extraction (after consultation with orthodontist).
- Prosthodontic procedures for primary teeth (including fabrication / insertion of stainless steel crowns).
- Uncomplicated extraction of primary and permanent teeth, full management of all types of tooth injuries (traumas).
- Treatment of medically compromised physically and mentally disabled children under local or general anesthesia in operating room
- Full mouth rehabilitation for healthy apprehensive children under general anesthesia in operating room
- Management and treatment of children receiving chemotherapy and / or radiation
- Conventional Restorative Dentistry Procedures
- Pulpotomy
- Root Canal Therapy of Primary Teeth
- Conventional Root Canal Therapy
- Dental Prophylaxis
- Routine Dental Extraction

### **2.3 Endodontics**

Endodontics is a branch of dentistry that is concerned with the morphology and pathology of the pulpo-dentine complex and periradicular tissues. Its study and practice encompasses the basic clinical sciences including the biology of the normal pulp, and the etiology, diagnosis, prevention, and treatment of diseases and injuries to the pulp and associated periradicular tissues. This involves:

- Apexification /apexogenesis
- Conventional root canal therapy
- Non-surgical retreatment
- Root amputation/hemisection
- Periradicular Surgery
- Intentional reimplantation

- Treatment of obstructed canals
- Removal of broken instruments
- Repair of internal perforations
- Apical Curettage
- Apicectomy
- Retrograde Filling
- Recalcification Procedures
- Non vital Bleaching of Discolored Teeth

## **2.4 Periodontics**

Periodontics is the branch of dentistry that is concerned with the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of diseases or abnormalities of the supporting tissues of the teeth or their substitutes.

This involves:

- Periodontal flap surgery
- Mucogingival Surgery (gingivoplasty, gingivectomy, frenectomy, free gingival/mucosal grafting, root coverage)
- Osseous surgery/crown lengthening
- Guided tissue regeneration
- Guided bone augmentation
- Scaling and Root Planning
- Gingival Curettage
- Gingival Flap Curettage
- Crown Lengthening Procedures
- Periodontal Osseous Surgery
- Osseous Grafting Procedures
- Pedicle Soft Tissue Graft Procedure
- Free Soft Tissue Graft Procedure
- Apically Positioned Flap Procedure
- Guided Tissue Regeneration



- Surgical Placement of Dental Implants
- Provisional Splinting of Teeth

## **2.5 Prosthodontics**

Prosthodontics is the branch of dentistry that is concerned with diagnosis, treatment planning, rehabilitation and maintenance of patients with a range of clinical conditions involving missing or deficient teeth and/or craniofacial tissues, using biocompatible substitutes. This involves:

- Replacement of Teeth with Conventional Removable Prosthesis (Complete Partial, Immediate, Overdenture)
- Replacement of Teeth with Conventional Fixed Prosthesis
- Replacement of Teeth with Immediate denture
- Replacement of Teeth with Implant Retained/Supported Abutments
- Repairs to Complete Dentures
- Repairs to Partial Dentures
- Repairs to Fixed Prosthesis
- Denture Rebase Procedures
- Denture Reline Procedures
- Construction of Precision Attachments for retention of Prosthesis
- Maxillofacial Prosthetic Replacement for Intraoral Acquired or Congenital Defects
- Maxillofacial prosthetic Replacement for Extra oral Acquired or Congenital Defects.
- Full-mouth reconstruction with alteration of vertical dimension and complete occlusal adjustment.

## **2.6 Conservative Dentistry**

Conservative dentistry is the branch of dentistry that is concerned with restoration of parts of the teeth that are defective as a result of disease, trauma, or abnormal development to a state of normal function, health, and esthetics. This involves:

- Direct restoration – Amalgam, Composite resin, GIC.

- Indirect restoration – Inlay, onlay, crowns (base metal, precious metal, porcelain fused to metal, or metal free ceramic).
- Veneers – Direct or indirect.
- Management of tooth surface loss.
- Dental management of dental anomalies.
- Restorative phase of dental implant.

## **2.7 Restorative Dentistry**

Restorative Dentistry is the branch of dentistry that is concerned with dental procedures in the dentulous or partially edentulous mouth. This involves conservative, endodontic, periodontic and prosthetic procedures.

## **2.8 Oral Surgery**

Oral surgery is the branch of dentistry concerned with the diagnosis and surgical management of conditions affecting the oral and dento-alveolar tissues. This involves:

- Routine extraction of single and multi-rooted erupted teeth.
- Removal of buried roots and fractured or residual root fragments.
- Removal of simple impacted/ectopic/supernumerary teeth.
- Exposure of teeth.
- Minor soft and hard tissue surgery.
- Management of minor dental trauma including the re-implantation of avulsed teeth.
- Surgical endodontic.
- Management of cranio-facial pain.
- Surgical placement of dental implants.

## 2.9 Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery

Oral and Maxillofacial surgery is part of surgery which deals with the diagnosis, surgical and adjunctive treatment of diseases, injuries and defects of the human jaws and associated structures. This involves **in addition to the scope of oral surgery**:

- Surgical Correction of Maxillofacial Skeletal Deformities
- Orthognathic Surgery
- Cleft and Craniofacial Surgery
- Management of Maxillofacial Trauma
- Surgical and non-surgical management of Temporomandibular Joint (TMJ) disorders.
- Management of Pathologic Conditions of the oral and maxillofacial region.
- Reconstructive and Cosmetic Surgery